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ERANIEL TALUK.

112. Construction of main and sub-channels from the Mulagumud tunnel.

Mr. M. Bhuthalingam Pillai (Member, Eraniel Taluk) said that, prior to the execution of the Kodayar project, a rough forecast of the lands that could be irrigated by the Kodayar channel was made, and that it included the lands in Midalam, Killiyur and Nattalam. The above fact would be evident from the circumstance that the Thiruvithancode and the Mulagumud tunnels, which were built at great cost, would, but for such inclusion, remain unused and unnecessary. The land-holders in the three places were subject to great hardship, owing to the absence of agricultural facilities. He requested therefore that Government might order the construction of main and sub-channels from the Mulagumud tunnel to irrigate the lands of Midalam, Killiyur and Nattalam and thus avert famine and drought to which they were constantly exposed. The channels, if cut, would not only irrigate existing lands but also serve to bring new lands under cultivation. The Member also prayed that an enquiry might be ordered through the Peishkar before finally deciding the question.

Dewan's reply.—The Chief Engineer reports that the channel asked for is at present quite out of the question, as it means an indefinite extension of the Thiruvithancode channel which, even to its present extent, is not adequate to supply the requirements of the lands under it. The suggestion of the Member cannot be acted upon.

KALKULAM TALUK.

113. Establishment of a Veterinary Hospital at Thackalay.

Mr. T. Kumara Pillai (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) said that Kalkulam and Eraniel had large heads of cattle and that a Veterinary Hospital at Thackalay was a real want. Since Government themselves contemplated opening such hospitals, he requested that the claims of the taluk might be considered in that connection and a hospital established at Thackalay.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

VILAVANKODE TALUK.

114. Opening of a kal to Thengapatnam.

Mr. K. Raman Tampi (Member, Vilavankode Taluk) said that, in spite of the Kodayar project, the Vilavankode taluk derived no benefit therefrom and had still to depend for its water-supply upon the rain-fed tanks. He requested that the Right Bank Channel might be extended to Thengapatnam, by cutting a kal from Valvachagoshtom or Kaviyallur along Palliyadi and Nattalam. The cost would

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not exceed 1½ lakhs of rupees and a fair return might be expected within a short time. By the opening of the kal, about 1,000 kottas of existing lands could be irrigated and many acres of dry land could also be converted into wet.

Dewan's reply.—Government consider that the proposal of the Member is impracticable and it cannot be acted upon.

TRIVANDRUM DIVISION.

TRIVANDRUM TALUK.

15. Drainage and water supply for the Trivandrum Town.

Mr. H. Mahadeva Iyer (Member, Town Improvement Committee, Trivandrum) said that good water for drinking and washing purposes was admittedly one of the essential conditions of sound public health, that the Government had from the earliest times constructed tanks, wells and channels in different parts of the country and that a good deal more yet remained to be done in that direction. He observed that the drains of Trivandrum required a perennial supply of water to keep them from horrid stench. The masonry drains recently built at considerable expense were so many centres of filth, for want of thorough flushing. It was not possible to flush the drains as long as the funds at the disposal of the Committee for such purposes were limited. The major portion of the funds was expended on the costly establishment. The permanent grant for the Trivandrum town was Rs. 32,000, but the cost of the establishment alone came to Rs. 33,000. Recently, the permanent grant was reduced to Rs. 25,000. If the reduction was made on the ground that the interests of the general tax-payer ought not to be sacrificed for the sake of the urban population, he would urge that the so-called general tax-payer was not a distinct entity made up exclusively of people living beyond urban limits, as those living within the town mostly owned extensive properties and were paying heavy taxes. He pointed out further that, as the seat of Government, as the constant resort of illustrious visitors and as the centre towards which people from all parts of Travancore as well as from distant provinces were attracted either by business or by pleasure, Trivandrum was entitled to exceptional treatment in regard to the spending of more money on it than other towns. He regretted that the funds at the disposal of the Com-

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